



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

615 Chestnut Street

Suite 1250

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476

(215) 861-8200

February 1, 2004

NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan, Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham and Delaware County District Attorney G. Michael Green announced today the filing of a 16-count Indictment¹ charging defendants **PRINCE WILLIAMS, GERALD BALAN and DARNELL PEACE** with committing seven separate armed robberies of commercial establishments listed below from August 25, 2004 to September 12, 2004. **WILLIAMS** is charged with participating in all seven armed robberies and with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The remaining defendants are charged with committing the following armed robberies:

No.	DATE	BUSINESS	DEFENDANT NAME
1	8/25/2004	R & K Groceries 6400 Dicks Ave., Phila.	Prince Williams Gerald Balan
2	8/26/2004	J & N Cold Cuts 6602 Buist Ave., Phila.	Prince Williams
3	8/28/2004	Pearl of the East Restaurant 2049 Oregon Ave., Phila.	Prince Williams Gerald Balan
4	8/30/2004	Golden Kingdom Restaurant 7104 Elmwood Ave., Phila.	Prince Williams Gerald Balan
5	8/30/2004	China King Restaurant 2501 S. 70 th St., Phila.	Prince Williams
6	9/7/2004	China House #5 Restaurant 2123 Oregon Ave., Phila.	Prince Williams Gerald Balan

¹An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

7	9/12/2004	7 - Eleven Store 500 E. Baltimore Ave., Clifton Hts.	Prince Williams Gerald Balan Darnell Peace
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The indictment charges that during the robberies the defendants brandished firearms and threatened to injure and kill patrons and customers to obtain money.

If convicted of all counts in the indictment, the defendants are facing the following maximum sentences:

PRINCE WILLIAMS	life imprisonment including a mandatory minimum of 157 years, up to 5 years supervised release, a \$4,000,000 fine and a \$1,600 special assessment.
GERALD BALAN	life imprisonment including a mandatory minimum of 132 years, up to 5 years supervised release, a \$2,750,000 fine and a \$1,100 special assessment.
DARNELL PEACE	life imprisonment including a mandatory minimum of 7 years, up to 5 years supervised release, a \$750,000 fine and a \$300 special assessment.

This investigation and prosecution was part of *Project Safe Neighborhoods*, a joint initiative by the United States Attorney's Office, each of the nine District Attorney's Offices in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute dangerous firearms offenders in federal court, where the defendants are likely to receive a substantial sentence upon conviction.

This case has been investigated by the ATF, the Philadelphia Police Department and the Clifton Heights Police Department, and other state and local law enforcement agencies. The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Francis C. Barbieri, Jr.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
PRINCE WILLIAMS	Cedar Street Philadelphia, PA	22 years old

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
GERALD BALAN	Hobson Street Philadelphia, PA	19 years old
DARNELL PEACE	Bonnaffon Street Philadelphia, PA	21 years old

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
Suite 1250, 615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Contact: RICHARD MANIERI
MEDIA CONTACT
215-861-8525**

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